

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-11 LAB-06

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R 051816Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1987

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 5127

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, EC

SUBJECT: CEOSL CONGRESS POSTPONED AGAIN

REF: QUITO 3150

1. CEOSL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, IN MEETING AUGUST 3, AGAIN POSTPONED CONGRESS. NEW DATES ARE OCTOBER 26 AND 27, TWO DAYS INSTEAD OF THREE.

2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, IN WHAT IS BEING DESCRIBED AS AMICABLE MEETING, DECIDED TO RESTRUCTURE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE JULIO CHANG, LEADER OF DISSIDENT GUAYAS FEDERATION AND OPPONENT OF CEOSL LEADER LUIS VILLACRES.

3. ON PRECEDING DAY (AUGUST 2), VILLACRES OPPONENT FOR POSITION OF CEOSL SECRETARY GENERAL AND LEADER OF IMPORTANT PICHINCHA FEDERATION JOSE CHAVEZ CONVENED ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES OF HIS FEDERATION (FETRALPI). ACCORDING TO REPORTS, DELEGATES DECIDED THEY WOULD GO ALONE TO MANTA FOR NATIONAL CONGRESS IF CEOSL EXECUTIVE POSTPONED CONGRESS AGAIN. INCLUSION OF CHAVEZ SUPPORTER JULIO CHANG IN PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MAY AFFECT THIS DECISION HOWEVER.

4. VISIT OF ORIT SECRETARY GENERAL JULIO ETCHEVERRY TO
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QUITO AND GUAYAQUIL JULY 27-29 AND EFFORTS PUSH QUARREL-

ING CEOSL LEADERS TOWARD UNITY WERE THOUGHT TO BE UNSUCCESSFUL. LOCAL LEADER CRITICIZED ETCHEVERRY, PROBABLY BECAUSE HE WAS UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO OPEN THE MONEY BAG. REPORTS ARE THAT WITH TACT AND FIRMNESS ETCHEVERRY TRIED MAKE CLEAR THAT CEOSL CONGRESS OUGHT TO BE A BUSINESS MEETING, MORE IN ACCORD WITH CEOSL MEANS, AND NOT A POLITICAL DEMONSTRATION. DECISION TO HAVE 2 DAY INSTEAD OF 3 DAY CONGRESS IS PROBABLY REFLECTION TO SOME DEGREE OF ETCHEVERRY'S EFFORTS.

5. COMMENT: FINAL OUTCOME OF INTERNAL DIVISIONS AND INFIGHTING IS YET TO BE SEEN. NECESSITY THAT CEOSL LEADERS FACE UP TO NEW ECONOMIC SITUATION (ORIT SUBSIDY NOT LIKELY TO BE RENEWED) IS BEING FORCED HOME ON THEM, BUT THEY STILL KEEP LOOKING FOR "MANNA FROM HEAVEN". FACT THAT PLANS FOR CONGRESS NOW MORE MODEST AND DECISION TO PERMIT THOSE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH CAN TO FOOT BILL FOR THEIR DELEGATE'S PARTICIPATION IN CONGRESS IS ENCOURAGING.

BREWSTER

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